



COUTURE f ARMS

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JUL 01 1998

P. O. BOX 247
KETTLEMAN CITY, CALIF. 93239

(209) 386-9865
(209) 386-4365 FAX

June 30, 1998

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

Couture Farms is a family farm that depends on irrigation water from northern California that flows through the Delta and is delivered to our farm in Western Kings County from the Central Valley Project.

We are very much aware of the serious problems in the Delta and have followed closely the progress of the CALFED program in developing a solution.

The soil and climate south of the Delta in the San Joaquin Valley is a resource that exists no where else in the world. To utilize this resource to provide food and fiber for a rapidly increasing world population requires a reliable source of water for irrigation.

Alternatives I and II fail desperately to correct the problems in the Delta and provide for a reliable supply of water for agriculture, and to say nothing of the ever increasing urban needs as California's population continues to virtually explode.

Alternative III seems to come closer to meeting these needs. The inclusion of additional storage north and south of the Delta is a component whose need is forcibly apparent in the years of 1997 and 1998. When floods have ravaged our valleys and millions upon millions of acre feet of water have flowed through the Delta and into the Pacific Ocean unused.

The additional storage must be accompanied by a conveyance system that will move this water from where it is stored around and through the Delta safely to the export pumps.



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The resolution of the Bay-Delta problem is of such importance to the future of California and indeed the entire nation that cost cannot stand in the way of a wise and correct solution.

We applaud the effort and success that the CALFED program has achieved and for considering our comments on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Paul Couture'. The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Paul Couture
Partner Couture Farms

C-012853

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